

## How to Get Started

1. Email [nationalpresomaphilanthropy@gmail.com](mailto:nationalpresomaphilanthropy@gmail.com) with a primary contact, including name, email and school.
2. There are only 15 shelters available in the United States. Please pick a shelter that is closest to you. Each shelter has a wish list of things they need. We would like for you to collect these items. You are not limited to the items on the list.
3. If possible, host an awareness raising event about the connection between health and homelessness and a focus on youth homelessness. You may have other healthcare and social justice/human rights student organizations that you can collaborate with.
4. Since there are only 15 shelters, some organizations may require to ship supplies. Please set up fundraising activities to generate funds if applicable.
5. Begin collecting items! It is advised to keep a record of the items collected and the amount. For example, if you have 1 pack of 10 toothbrushes, then you should count it as 10 items. Each time you drop off items to the shelter of choice a copy must be sent with the package and emailed to me. The total amount of items will be confirmed with the shelter that you send it to.
6. At the end of a long semester of collecting items for the Covenant House, the Pre-SOMA and SOMA chapter with the most collected items will receive recognition at a national level within SOMA.

## What is the Outcome?

- Bring attention to the issues that affect homeless, runaway, and at-risk youth, and address the causes that lead to their current situation.
- Utilize our knowledge and experience working with this population to provide realistic recommendations for program design and policy implementation.
- Create positive change in the systems that are, or should be, in place to serve this population.
- Produce up-to-date, accurate, and reliable research that educates the public about all aspects of the homeless youth population.
- Develop and train a diverse team of strong leaders who are committed to effecting change in the social service field and raising its level of professionalism.